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1020785 COMPLETE SPECIFICATION
2 SHEETS This drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale
Sheets 1 & 2

Fig. 4.

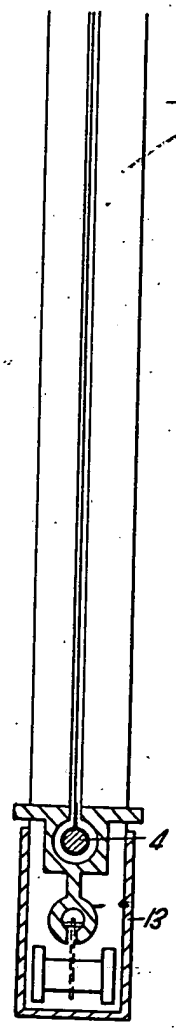

Fig. 5.

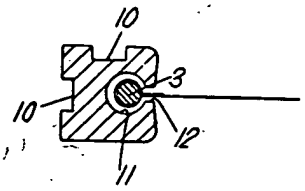

Fig. 2.

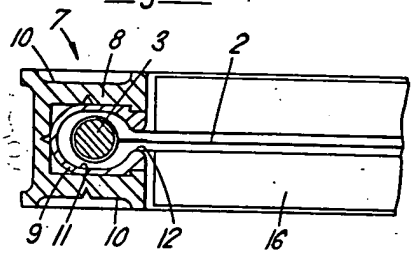

Fig. 3.

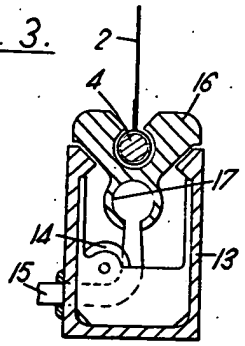

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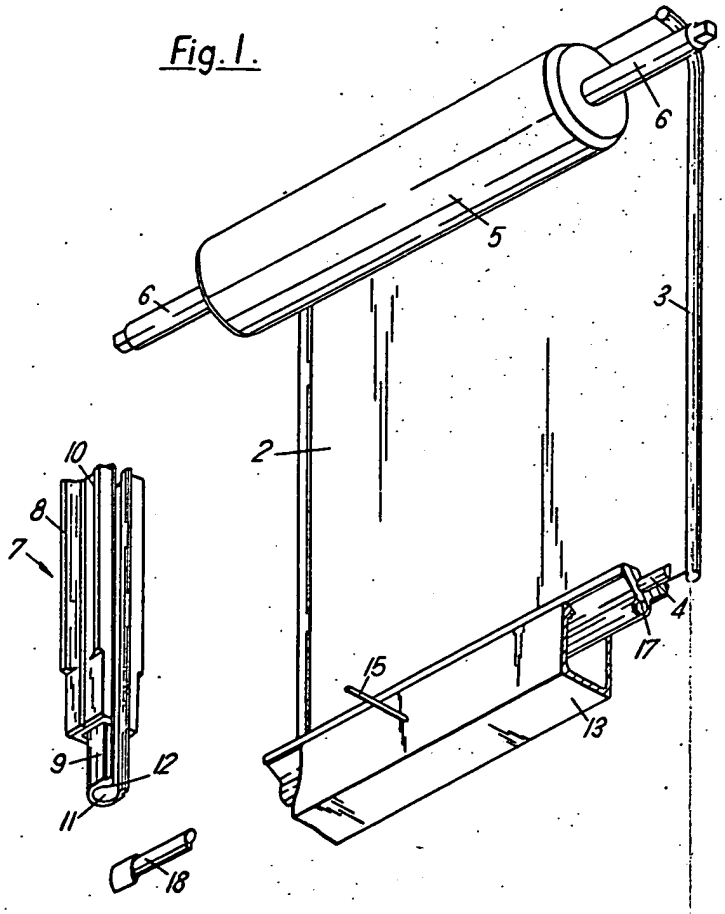
Fig. 1.



PATENT SPECIFICATION

1,020,785

DRAWINGS ATTACHED.

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Blinds.

We, THE ARTISTIC BLIND COMPANY LIMITED, a British Company of 91 Ebury Bridge Road, London, S.W.1, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention concerns improvements in or relating to blinds and more particularly blinds of the type known as light excluding blinds which require channeled guides on either side in which the blind runs. Blinds of the above type are well known and generally have side channels, in which the edges of the blind run, which are made of timber and are usually fitted on site. In order to prevent the sides of the blind from pulling or being blown out of the channels and to ensure exclusion of light it has been necessary to construct these side channels whether of timber or of sheet metal of such dimensions that they overlap a substantial width of the blind on either side. In addition to the fact that even with such wide channels blinds occasionally blow out this arrangement has the disadvantage that the channel members due to their size are unsightly and when the channels are mounted within the reveals of a window block a considerable area of light from the window. Furthermore with contemporary window frame design there is frequently insufficient room between the reveal and moving window frame for wood or metal channels of the above mentioned type.

It is an object of the invention to provide an improved blind of the type described in which the above mentioned disadvantages are substantially reduced.

According to the invention there is provided a blind of the type described having a beading, piping or similar enlargement extending along substantially the whole of two opposite edges and two blind retaining members adapted to be mounted along two sides of an area to be covered by the blind said members being of extruded metal, plastic or similar suitable material and having along at least one face a continuous groove with a restricted entry, which groove serves to receive and retain said beading piping or similar enlargement slidably therein, said blind including a roller which is shorter than the width of the blind and has at each end elongated spindles of reduced diameter around which the blind edges having the piping or beading may be wound whilst the remainder of the blind is wound on the roller.

The said retaining members may be made of extruded metal, e.g. light metal or aluminium alloys, plastic material such as for instance nylon or Teflon (Registered Trade Mark) or other material such as rubber and one such member may be provided along each side. It is however preferred to make said retaining members in two parts, with an outer channel which may first be secured in position adjacent the window, and an inner channel which can subsequently be inserted into said outer channel, said inner channel being formed with said continuous groove with a restricted entry. In this way there is no danger that any screws which may be used to secure the member will obstruct said continuous groove.

By using extruded members it is a simple matter to produce such members in any desired lengths and having any suitable cross-sectional area. By using such materials it is possible to provide rigid retaining members for the blind of smaller

[*Price* 4*s.* 6*d.*]

dimensions than the fabricated channel members hitherto used thus enabling a neater fitting to be provided, which fitting when installed obscures a lesser area of the window than is normally the case with known blinds of this type.

Due to the provision of a beading or piping on the edges of the blind which is held slidably in the groove in the retaining member only a very small portion of the blind material need be covered by the retaining members and there is virtually no risk of the edges of the blind being pulled or blown out of the retaining members.

Since the retaining members may have to be fixed on a wall adjacent a window or in a reveal for a window it is preferred to make such retaining members of said outer channels thereof of generally rectangular cross-section, two surfaces at right angles to each other serving to have holes drilled therein to receive fixing screws whilst a third surface contains the restricted entry to said channel.

In order to counteract any unevenness in the surface to which the retaining members are to be secured, a groove or recess may be provided along the surfaces to be applied to a wall in which foam plastic, foam rubber or felt may be mounted to prevent light penetration between the wall and said retaining member.

Whilst generally blinds are pulled downwardly with the retaining members along the two vertical sides it will be appreciated that blinds according to this invention may be pulled upwardly or from side to side or even horizontally across an area to be covered.

If desired we may also provide a beading or piping along the free edge of the blind, i.e. the edge parallel to the axis of the roller on which the blind will be rolled. Such edge can then be provided with a strip like extrusion of plastic or light metal alloy which fits into a casing when the blind is closed, said casing holding a pulley, pulleys or rollers around which a blind cord or cords pass for operating the blind.

Such strip like extrusion may be provided at its ends with additional elements which engage and slide in the grooves in the said retaining members upon operation of the bind.

It will be apparent that blinds according to this invention can be adapted to be operated manually by a blind cord or cords, mechanically by a winch or can be actuated by an electric motor.

Any suitable material can be used for the blind itself.

In order that the invention may be well understood two embodiments will be described in further detail by way of example only with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 shows an exploded perspective view of one embodiment of the invention.

Figure 2 shows a cross-section of the retaining member of Figure 1 with the blind inserted.

Figure 3 shows a cross section of the lower casing housing the lower edge of the blind.

Figure 4 shows a view similar to Figure 3 of a second embodiment.

Figure 5 shows a view similar to Figure 2 of said second embodiment.

Figure 1 shows a light excluding blind 2 provided with a continuous piping 3 of circular section along both its side edges and a similar piping 4 along its free edge parallel to the axis of the spring roller 5 on which the blind is rolled.

This roller 5 has a reduced width of barrel, the overall width of the blind being compensated by longer pins or spindles 6 around which the portion of the blind having the piping 3 is wound.

Along each side of the area to be covered by the blind 2 a blind retaining member 7 is provided. These members are of two piece construction comprising an extruded aluminium outer channel 8 and an extruded synthetic resin inner channel 9. The outer channel 8 is of generally rectangular cross-section. Three faces are each provided with a groove 10 along their whole length and a strip of foam rubber is secured in whichever face is intended to be applied to a wall or like surface. Screw holes extending through this face enable the channels 8 to be secured along the side edges of the area to be covered by the blind. The inner channel 9 can then be inserted into the outer channel 8.

The inner channels 9 each have a groove 11 or the like of a cross-section sufficient to receive the piping 3, such groove 11 having a restricted opening or slot 12 in the face of the channel 9 directed at right angles to the plane of the area to be covered.

By using such retaining members 9 small neat fittings are provided which positively engage the blind edge via the piping 3 without any risk of the edge coming out in use, thus ensuring the exclusion of light.

At the lower edge of the area to be covered a trough shaped casing 13 is provided which houses a pulley 14 over which an actuating cord 15 passes such cord emerging at the centre of the casing.

Along the lower free edge of the blind a strip like extrusion 16 which is grooved along its upper surface is provided and positively engages the piping 4 along such edge. The extrusion 16 is provided along its lower surface with a groove 17 to receive the operating cord 15. The said strip 16 is so

shaped that with the blind 2 pulled down it seats on the top of and within said trough like casing 13 so restricting the entry of light. Additional elements 18 may be provided which fit into the ends of the groove 17 the other end of said elements being shaped so as to run freely in the grooves 11 of the channel 9.

Figure 4 shows a view similar to Figure 3 of a second embodiment. This embodiment is provided with two operating cords which both pass over pulleys in the casing 13 and emerge from the casing together.

Figure 5 shows an alternative form of retaining member formed as a unitary extrusion with two grooves 10 for receiving a foam rubber strip, and provided with a groove 11 with restricted opening 12 similar to Figure 2.

It will be seen that constructions of blind have been provided which as compared with the known blinds mentioned above are simpler to manufacture and instal, are neater and smaller when in position, and more certain in their engagement of the blind when the latter is in operation.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A blind of the type described having a beading, piping or similar enlargement extending along substantially the whole of two opposite edges and two blind retaining members adapted to be mounted along two sides of an area to be covered by the blind, said members being of extruded metal, plastic or similar suitable material and having along at least one face a continuous groove with a restricted entry, which groove serves to receive and retain said beading piping or similar enlargement slidably therein, said blind including a roller which is shorter than the width of the blind and has at each end elongated spindles of reduced diameter around which the blind edges having the piping or beading may be wound whilst the remainder of the blind is wound on the roller.

2. A blind according to claim 1 in which said retaining members comprise an inner and an outer channel, said outer channel being adapted to be secured around the area to be covered by the blind, and said inner channel being adapted to be inserted into said outer channel, said continuous groove being formed in said inner channel.

3. A blind according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which said retaining members are of a generally rectangular cross section.

4. A blind according to any of the preceding claims in which the retaining members are provided along the surfaces to be applied to a wall, with a groove or recess into which in use foam rubber or felt may be mounted to prevent light penetration between the wall and said retaining member.

5. A blind according to any of the preceding claims in which a beading or piping is provided along the free edge of the blind to which is secured a strip like extrusion which fits into a casing when the blind is closed.

6. A blind according to claim 5 in which said strip like extrusion is provided at its ends with additional elements which engage and slide in the grooves in said retaining members upon operation of the blind.

7. A blind according to claim 5 or 6 in which said casing holds a pulley or pulleys around which a blind cord or cords pass for operating the blind.

8. A blind substantially as described with reference to Figures 1 to 3 of the accompanying drawings.

9. A blind substantially as described with reference to Figures 4 and 5 of the accompanying drawings.

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